The text of this document is an accurate copy of what was filed by the initiative proponent with the Secretary of State for assignment of a serial number. The accuracy of code in amendatory sections has not been verified.

#### INITIATIVE 274

I, Sam Reed, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 274 to the Legislature is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

- 1 ΑN ACT Relating to ensuring greater governmental fiscal 2 responsibility by reestablishing voter-approved Initiative 601's state 3 spending and taxation limits and repealing loopholes; amending RCW 43.135.010, 43.135.025, 43.135.035, 43.135.045, 43.135.055, 43.135.060, 4 43.135.902, and 43.135.903; creating a new section; repealing RCW 5 43.135.03901, 43.135.03902, 43.135.051, and 43.135.080; repealing 2002 c 33 s 3 (uncodified); providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency. 8
- 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

#### 10 POLICIES AND PURPOSES

- 11 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** State government faces a \$2 billion dollar
- 12 deficit because of numerous loopholes put in voter-approved Initiative
- 13 601, the Taxpayer Protection Act, since 1993. If these loopholes had
- 14 not been imposed and exploited over the past decade, state government
- 15 would have adequate reserves to use during these tough economic times.
- 16 Voters approved Initiative 601 to provide reasonable limits on spending

- 1 and taxation for state government. This measure would reestablish
- 2 state spending limits, emergency reserve fund requirements, limits on
- 3 unfunded mandates, and require a legislative supermajority for tax and
- 4 fee increases and to access emergency reserve funds for general fund
- 5 spending. This measure repeals loopholes put in voter-approved
- 6 Initiative 601 since 1993.

- 7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.135.010 and 1994 c 2 s 1 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
- 9 ((The people of the state of Washington hereby find and declare:
- 10 (1) The continuing increases in our state tax burden and the 11 corresponding growth of state government is contrary to the interest of 12 the people of the state of Washington.
- (2) It is necessary to limit the rate of growth of state government while assuring adequate funding of essential services, including basic education as defined by the legislature.
- 16 (3) The current budgetary system in the state of Washington lacks
  17 stability. The system encourages crisis budgeting and results in
  18 cutbacks during lean years and overspending during surplus years.
  - (4) It is therefore the intent of this chapter to:
- 20 (a) Establish a limit on state expenditures that will assure that
  21 the growth rate of state expenditures does not exceed the growth rate
  22 of inflation and state population;
- 23 (b) Assure that local governments are provided funds adequate to 24 render those services deemed essential by their citizens;
- (c) Assure that the state does not impose responsibility on local governments for new programs or increased levels of service under existing programs unless the costs thereof are paid by the state;
- 28 (d) Provide for adjustment of the limit when costs of a program are 29 transferred between the state and another political entity;
- 30 (e) Establish a procedure for exceeding this limit in emergency 31 situations;
- 32 (f) Provide for voter approval of tax increases; and
- 33 (g) Avoid overfunding and underfunding state programs by providing 34 stability, consistency, and long-range planning.)) The people of the 35 state of Washington hereby find and declare:
- 36 <u>(1) The continuing increases in our state tax burden and the</u> 37 <u>corresponding growth of state government is contrary to the interest of</u> 38 <u>the people of the state of Washington.</u>

- 1 (2) It is necessary to limit the rate of growth of state government 2 while assuring adequate funding of essential services, including basic 3 education as defined by the legislature.
- 4 (3) The current budgetary system in the state of Washington lacks
  5 stability. The system encourages crisis budgeting and results in
  6 cutbacks during lean years and overspending during surplus years.
  - (4) It is therefore the intent of this chapter to:
- 8 <u>(a) Establish a limit on state expenditures that will assure that</u>
  9 <u>the growth rate of state expenditures does not exceed the growth rate</u>
  10 of inflation and state population;
- 11 <u>(b) Assure that local governments are provided funds adequate to</u>
  12 render those services deemed essential by their citizens;
- 13 <u>(c) Assure that the state does not impose responsibility on local</u>
  14 governments for new programs or increased levels of service under
  15 existing programs unless the costs thereof are paid by the state;
- 16 <u>(d) Provide for adjustment of the limit when costs of a program are</u>
  17 transferred between the state and another political entity;
- 18 <u>(e) Establish a procedure for exceeding this limit in emergency</u>
  19 situations;
- 20 (f) Provide for voter approval of tax increases; and
- 21 (g) Avoid overfunding and underfunding state programs by providing 22 stability, consistency, and long-range planning.

# 23 REESTABLISHING STATE SPENDING LIMITS 24 PROVIDED BY VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

- 25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.135.025 and 2000 2nd sp.s. c 2 s 1 are each amended 26 to read as follows:
- (((1) The state shall not expend from the general fund during any fiscal year state moneys in excess of the state expenditure limit established under this chapter.
- 30 (2) Except pursuant to a declaration of emergency under RCW 31 43.135.035 or pursuant to an appropriation under RCW 43.135.045(4)(b),
- 32 the state treasurer shall not issue or redeem any check, warrant, or
- 33 voucher that will result in a state general fund expenditure for any
- 34 fiscal year in excess of the state expenditure limit established under
- 35 this chapter. A violation of this subsection constitutes a violation
- 36 of RCW 43.88.290 and shall subject the state treasurer to the penalties
- 37 provided in RCW 43.88.300.

(3) The state expenditure limit for any fiscal year shall be the previous fiscal year's state expenditure limit increased by a percentage rate that equals the fiscal growth factor.

- (4) For purposes of computing the state expenditure limit for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1995, the phrase "the previous fiscal year's state expenditure limit" means the total state expenditures from the state general fund, not including federal funds, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1989, plus the fiscal growth factor. This calculation is then computed for the state expenditure limit for fiscal years 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1995, and as required under RCW 43.135.035(4).
- (5) A state expenditure limit committee is established for the purpose of determining and adjusting the state expenditure limit as provided in this chapter. The members of the state expenditure limit committee are the director of financial management, the attorney general or the attorney general's designee, and the chairs of the senate committee on ways and means and the house of representatives committee on appropriations. All actions of the state expenditure limit committee taken pursuant to this chapter require an affirmative vote of at least three members.
- (6) Each November, the state expenditure limit committee shall adjust the expenditure limit for the preceding fiscal year based on actual expenditures and known changes in the fiscal growth factor and then project an expenditure limit for the next two fiscal years. If, by November 30th, the state expenditure limit committee has not adopted the expenditure limit adjustment and projected expenditure limit as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the attorney general or his or her designee shall adjust or project the expenditure limit, as necessary.
- 30 (7) "Fiscal growth factor" means the average of the sum of 31 inflation and population change for each of the prior three fiscal 32 years.
- 33 (8) "Inflation" means the percentage change in the implicit price 34 deflator for the United States for each fiscal year as published by the 35 federal bureau of labor statistics.
  - (9) "Population change" means the percentage change in state population for each fiscal year as reported by the office of financial management.)) (1) The state shall not expend from the general fund

- 1 <u>during any fiscal year state moneys in excess of the state expenditure</u> 2 <u>limit established under this chapter.</u>
- 3 (2) Except pursuant to a declaration of emergency under RCW
- 4 43.135.035 or pursuant to an appropriation under RCW 43.135.045(4)(b),
- 5 the state treasurer shall not issue or redeem any check, warrant, or
- 6 voucher that will result in a state general fund expenditure for any
- 7 fiscal year in excess of the state expenditure limit established under
- 8 this chapter. A violation of this subsection constitutes a violation
- 9 of RCW 43.88.290 and shall subject the state treasurer to the penalties
- 10 provided in RCW 43.88.300.
- 11 (3) The state expenditure limit for any fiscal year shall be the
- 12 previous fiscal year's state expenditure limit increased by a
- 13 percentage rate that equals the fiscal growth factor.
- 14 (4) For purposes of computing the state expenditure limit for the
- 15 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1995, the phrase "the previous fiscal
- 16 year's state expenditure limit" means the total state expenditures from
- 17 the state general fund, not including federal funds, for the fiscal
- 18 year beginning July 1, 1989, plus the fiscal growth factor. This
- 19 calculation is then computed for the state expenditure limit for fiscal
- 20 years 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1995, and as required under RCW
- 21 43.135.035(5).
- 22 (5) Each November, the office of financial management shall adjust
- 23 the expenditure limit for the preceding fiscal year based on actual
- 24 expenditures and known changes in the fiscal growth factor and then
- 25 project an expenditure limit for the next two fiscal years. The office
- 26 of financial management shall notify the legislative fiscal committees
- 27 of all adjustments to the state expenditure limit and projections of
- 28 future expenditure limits.
- 29 (6) "Fiscal growth factor" means the average of the sum of
- 30 <u>inflation and population change for each of the prior three fiscal</u>
- 31 years.
- 32 (7) "Inflation" means the percentage change in the implicit price
- 33 deflator for the United States for each fiscal year as published by the
- 34 <u>federal bureau of labor statistics.</u>
- 35 (8) "Population change" means the percentage change in state
- 36 population for each fiscal year as reported by the office of financial
- 37 <u>management</u>.

# REESTABLISHING THE LIMITS ON TAX INCREASES PROVIDED BY VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

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3 Sec. 4. RCW 43.135.035 and 2002 c 33 s 1 are each amended to read 4 as follows: (((1) After July 1, 1995, any action or combination of actions by 5 6 the legislature that raises state revenue or requires revenue-neutral 7 tax shifts may be taken only if approved by a two-thirds vote of each 8 house, and then only if state expenditures in any fiscal year, including the new revenue, will not exceed the state expenditure limits 9 established under this chapter. However, during the 2001-2003 10 biennium, any action or combination of actions by the legislature that 11 raises state revenue or requires revenue-neutral tax shifts may be 12 13 taken only if approved by a majority vote of each house, and then only 14 if state expenditures in any fiscal year, including the new revenue, 15 will not exceed the state expenditure limits established under this 16 <del>chapter.</del> 17 (2)(a) If the legislative action under subsection (1) of this 18 section will result in expenditures in excess of the state expenditure limit, then the action of the legislature shall not take effect until 19 approved by a vote of the people at a November general election. The 20 21 office of financial management shall adjust the state expenditure limit 22 by the amount of additional revenue approved by the voters under this 23 section. This adjustment shall not exceed the amount of revenue 24 generated by the legislative action during the first full fiscal year in which it is in effect. The state expenditure limit shall be 25 adjusted downward upon expiration or repeal of the legislative action. 26 (b) The ballot title for any vote of the people required under this 27 28 section shall be substantially as follows: 29 "Shall taxes be imposed on . . . . . . in order to allow a spending 30 increase above last year's authorized spending adjusted for inflation 31 and population increases?" 32 (3)(a) The state expenditure limit may be exceeded upon declaration 33 of an emergency for a period not to exceed twenty-four months by a law approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature and 34

signed by the governor. The law shall set forth the nature of the emergency, which is limited to natural disasters that require immediate

government action to alleviate human suffering and provide humanitarian

assistance. The state expenditure limit may be exceeded for no more than twenty-four months following the declaration of the emergency and only for the purposes contained in the emergency declaration.

 (b) Additional taxes required for an emergency under this section may be imposed only until thirty days following the next general election, unless an extension is approved at that general election. The additional taxes shall expire upon expiration of the declaration of emergency. The legislature shall not impose additional taxes for emergency purposes under this subsection unless funds in the education construction fund have been exhausted.

(c) The state or any political subdivision of the state shall not impose any tax on intangible property listed in RCW 84.36.070 as that statute exists on January 1, 1993.

(4) If the cost of any state program or function is shifted from the state general fund on or after January 1, 1993, to another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred from the state general fund to another fund or account, the state expenditure limit committee, acting pursuant to RCW 43.135.025(5), shall lower the state expenditure limit to reflect the shift. For the purposes of this section, a transfer of money from the state general fund to another fund or account includes any state legislative action taken after July 1, 2000, that has the effect of reducing revenues from a particular source, where such revenues would otherwise be deposited into the state general fund, while increasing the revenues from that particular source to another state or local government account. This subsection does not apply to the dedication or use of lottery revenues under RCW 67.70.240(3) or property taxes under RCW 84.52.068, in support of education or education expenditures.

(5) If the cost of any state program or function is shifted to the state general fund on or after January 1, 2000, from another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred to the state general fund from another fund or account, the state expenditure limit committee, acting pursuant to RCW 43.135.025(5), shall increase the state expenditure limit to reflect the shift.)) (1) After July 1, 1995, any action or combination of actions by the legislature that raises state revenue or requires revenue-neutral tax shifts may be taken only if approved by a three-fourths vote of each house, and then only if state expenditures in any fiscal year, including the new revenue, will not exceed the state expenditure limits established under this chapter.

- (2) For the purposes of this section, "raises state revenue"
  includes adding a new tax as authorized by law, expanding the base of
  any tax, increasing the monetary amount of an existing tax, increasing
  the rate of an existing tax, removing all or part of any exemption or
  deduction from any tax, and extending an expiring tax.
- (3)(a) If the legislative action under subsection (1) of this 6 section will result in expenditures in excess of the state expenditure 7 8 limit, then the action of the legislature shall not take effect until 9 approved by a vote of the people at a November general election. The office of financial management shall adjust the state expenditure limit 10 by the amount of additional revenue approved by the voters under this 11 section. This adjustment shall not exceed the amount of revenue 12 generated by the legislative action during the first full fiscal year 13 14 in which it is in effect. The state expenditure limit shall be adjusted downward upon expiration or repeal of the legislative action. 15 (b) The ballot title for any vote of the people required under this 16 section shall be substantially as follows: 17
- "Shall taxes be imposed on . . . . . in order to allow a spending
  increase above last year's authorized spending adjusted for inflation
  and population increases?"
- 21 (4)(a) The state expenditure limit may be exceeded upon declaration of an emergency for a period not to exceed twenty-four months by a law 22 approved by a three-fourths vote of each house of the legislature and 23 signed by the governor. The law shall set forth the nature of the 24 25 emergency, which is limited to natural disasters that require immediate government action to alleviate human suffering and provide humanitarian 26 assistance. The state expenditure limit may be exceeded for no more 27 than twenty-four months following the declaration of the emergency and 28 29 only for the purposes contained in the emergency declaration.
- (b) Additional taxes required for an emergency under this section may be imposed only until thirty days following the next general election, unless an extension is approved at that general election.

  The additional taxes shall expire upon expiration of the declaration of emergency. The legislature shall not impose additional taxes for emergency purposes under this subsection unless funds in the education construction fund have been exhausted.

- 1 (c) The state or any political subdivision of the state shall not 2 impose any tax on intangible property listed in RCW 84.36.070 as that 3 statute exists on January 1, 1993.
- (5) If the cost of any state program or function is shifted from the state general fund on or after January 1, 1993, to another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred from the state general fund to another fund or account, the office of financial management shall lower the state expenditure limit to reflect the shift.

# 9 REESTABLISHING THE EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND REQUIREMENTS 10 PROVIDED BY VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

- 11 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.135.045 and 2002 c 33 s 2 are each amended to read 12 as follows:
- 13 (((1) The emergency reserve fund is established in the state treasury. During each fiscal year, the state treasurer shall deposit 14 in the emergency reserve fund all general fund-state revenues in 15 excess of the state expenditure limit for that fiscal year. Deposits 16 17 shall be made at the end of each fiscal quarter based on projections of state revenues and the state expenditure limit. The treasurer shall 18 19 make transfers between these accounts as necessary to reconcile actual 20 annual revenues and the expenditure limit for fiscal year 2000 and 21 thereafter.

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- (2) The legislature may appropriate moneys from the emergency reserve fund only with approval of at least two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature, and then only if the appropriation does not cause total expenditures to exceed the state expenditure limit under this chapter. However, during the 2001-2003 biennium, the legislature may transfer moneys from the emergency reserve fund to the general fund only with approval of a majority of the members of each house of the legislature, and then only if the appropriation does not cause total expenditures to exceed the state expenditure limit under this chapter.
- (3) The emergency reserve fund balance shall not exceed five percent of annual general fund—state revenues as projected by the official state revenue forecast. Any balance in excess of five percent shall be transferred on a quarterly basis by the state treasurer as follows: Seventy-five percent to the student achievement fund hereby created in the state treasury and twenty-five percent to the general

fund balance. The treasurer shall make transfers between these accounts as necessary to reconcile actual annual revenues for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter. When per-student state funding for the maintenance and operation of K-12 education meets a level of no less than ninety percent of the national average of total funding from all sources per student as determined by the most recent published data from the national center for education statistics of the United States department of education, as calculated by the office of financial management, further deposits to the student achievement fund shall be required only to the extent necessary to maintain the ninety-percent level. Remaining funds are part of the general fund balance and these funds are subject to the expenditure limits of this chapter. 

(4) The education construction fund is hereby created in the state treasury.

 (a) Funds may be appropriated from the education construction fund exclusively for common school construction or higher education construction.

(b) Funds may be appropriated for any other purpose only if approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature and if approved by a vote of the people at the next general election. An appropriation approved by the people under this subsection shall result in an adjustment to the state expenditure limit only for the fiscal period for which the appropriation is made and shall not affect any subsequent fiscal period.

(5) Funds from the student achievement fund shall be appropriated to the superintendent of public instruction strictly for distribution to school districts to meet the provisions set out in the student achievement act. Allocations shall be made on an equal per full-time equivalent student basis to each school district.

(6) Earnings of the emergency reserve fund under RCW 43.84.092(4)(a) shall be transferred quarterly to the multimodal transportation account, except for those earnings that are in excess of thirty-five million dollars each fiscal year. Within thirty days following any fiscal year in which earnings transferred to the multimodal transportation account under this subsection did not total thirty-five million dollars, the state treasurer shall transfer from the emergency reserve fund an amount necessary to bring the total deposited in the multimodal transportation account under this subsection to thirty-five million dollars. The revenues to the

- multimodal transportation account reflected in this subsection provide 1 ongoing support for the transportation programs of the state. However, 2 3 it is the intent of the legislature that any new long term financial 4 support that may be subsequently provided for transportation programs will be used to replace and supplant the revenues reflected in this 5 6 subsection, thereby allowing those revenues to be returned to the 7 purposes to which they were previously dedicated.)) (1) The emergency 8 reserve fund is established in the state treasury. During each fiscal 9 year, the state treasurer shall deposit in the emergency reserve fund all general fund--state revenues in excess of the state expenditure 10 limit for that fiscal year. Deposits shall be made at the end of each 11 12 fiscal quarter based on projections of state revenues and the state <u>expenditure limi</u>t. 13
- 14 (2) The legislature may appropriate moneys from the emergency
  15 reserve fund only with approval of at least three-fourths of the
  16 members of each house of the legislature, and then only if the
  17 appropriation does not cause total expenditures to exceed the state
  18 expenditure limit under this chapter.
- 19 (3) The emergency reserve fund balance shall not exceed five 20 percent of biennial general fund--state revenues as projected by the 21 official state revenue forecast. Any balance in excess of five percent 22 shall be transferred on a quarterly basis by the state treasurer to the 23 education construction fund hereby created in the treasury.
- 24 <u>(4)(a) Funds may be appropriated from the education construction</u> 25 <u>fund exclusively for common school construction or higher education</u> 26 <u>construction.</u>
- 27 (b) Funds may be appropriated for any other purpose only if
  28 approved by a three-fourths vote of each house of the legislature and
  29 if approved by a vote of the people at the next general election. An
  30 appropriation approved by the people under this subsection shall result
  31 in an adjustment to the state expenditure limit only for the fiscal
  32 period for which the appropriation is made and shall not affect any
  33 subsequent fiscal period.

# 34 REESTABLISHING THE LIMITS ON FEE INCREASES 35 PROVIDED BY VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

36 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.135.055 and 2001 c 314 s 19 are each amended to 37 read as follows:

- 1 (1) ((No fee may increase in any fiscal year by a percentage in 2 excess of the fiscal growth factor for that fiscal year without prior 3 legislative approval.)) No fee may increase in any fiscal year by a 4 percentage in excess of the fiscal growth factor for that fiscal year 5 unless the increase is approved by a three-fourths vote of each house 6 of the legislature.
- 7 (2) This section does not apply to an assessment made by an agricultural commodity commission or board created by state statute or 9 created under a marketing agreement or order under chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW, or to the forest products commission, if the assessment is approved by referendum in accordance with the provisions of the statutes creating the commission or board or chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW for approving such assessments.

### REESTABLISHING THE LIMITS ON UNFUNDED MANDATES PROVIDED BY VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

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- 16 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.135.060 and 1998 c 321 s 15 are each amended to 17 read as follows:
- ((<del>(1)</del> After July 1, 1995, the legislature shall not impose 18 responsibility for new programs or increased levels of service under 19 20 existing programs on any political subdivision of the state unless the subdivision is fully reimbursed by the state for the costs of the new 21 22 programs or increases in service levels. Reimbursement by the state 23 may be made by: (a) A specific appropriation; or (b) increases in 24 state distributions of revenue to political subdivisions occurring 25 after January 1, 1998.
- 26 (2) If by order of any court, or legislative enactment, the costs
  27 of a federal or local government program are transferred to or from the
  28 state, the otherwise applicable state expenditure limit shall be
  29 increased or decreased, as the case may be, by the dollar amount of the
  30 costs of the program.
- 31 (3) The legislature, in consultation with the office of financial
  32 management or its successor agency, shall determine the costs of any
  33 new programs or increased levels of service under existing programs
  34 imposed on any political subdivision or transferred to or from the
  35 state.
- 36 (4) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to the costs 37 incurred for voting devices or machines under RCW 29.04.200.)) (1)

- 1 After July 1, 1995, the legislature shall not impose responsibility for
- 2 new programs or increased levels of service under existing programs on
- 3 any political subdivision of the state unless the subdivision is fully
- 4 reimbursed by specific appropriation by the state for the costs of the
- 5 <u>new programs or increases in service levels.</u>
- 6 (2) If by order of any court, or legislative enactment, the costs
- 7 of a federal or local government program are transferred to or from the
- 8 state, the otherwise applicable state expenditure limit shall be
- 9 increased or decreased, as the case may be, by the dollar amount of the
- 10 costs of the program.
- 11 (3) The legislature, in consultation with the office of financial
- 12 management or its successor agency, shall determine the costs of any
- 13 new programs or increased levels of service under existing programs
- 14 <u>imposed on any political subdivision or transferred to or from the</u>
- 15 state.
- 16 (4) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to the costs
- 17 <u>incurred for voting devices or machines under RCW 29.04.200.</u>

#### 18 REPEALING LOOPHOLES PUT IN VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601 SINCE 1993

- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 8.** The following acts or parts of acts are each 20 repealed:
- 21 (1) RCW 43.135.03901 (Criminal justice treatment account, violence
- 22 reduction and drug enforcement account transfers) and 2002 c 290 s 5;
- 23 (2) RCW 43.135.03902 (Multimodal transportation account transfer)
- 24 and 2002 c 202 s 404;
- 25 (3) RCW 43.135.051 (Emergency reserve fund--State investment board
- 26 authority to invest or manage) and 1999 c 288 s 1;
- 27 (4) RCW 43.135.080 (Reenactment and reaffirmation of Initiative
- 28 Measure No. 601--Continued limitations--Exceptions) and 1998 c 321 s
- 29 14; and
- 30 (5) 2002 c 33 s 3 (uncodified).

#### 31 REESTABLISHING THE TITLE OF VOTER-APPROVED INITIATIVE 601

- 32 **Sec. 9.** RCW 43.135.902 and 1994 c 2 s 10 are each amended to read
- 33 as follows:

((This chapter may be known and cited as the taxpayer protection
this chapter may be known and cited as the taxpayer protection
act.)

#### REESTABLISHING THE SEVERABILITY CLAUSE OF VOTER-APPROVED

5 INITIATIVE 601

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6 **Sec. 10.** RCW 43.135.903 and 1994 c 2 s 12 are each amended to read 7 as follows:

8 ((If any provision of this act or its application to any person or 9 circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the 10 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not 11 affected.)) If any provision of this act or its application to any 12 person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the 13 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not

15 EMERGENCY CLAUSE

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The provisions of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect retroactively to January 1, 2003.

--- END ---